

NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION Meeting

March 5, 2008 MINUTES
Location: Newton City Hall Cafeteria

Present:	Joe DeVito (Chair), Anthony Bibbo, Marianne Cook, Richard Dyer, Donna Gordon, Matt Green, Joanne Kazarian, Officer Jim O'Loughlin, Stephanie Pelkowsky, Stephen Ross, Terance Sack, Kirsten Tuohy, <u>Students</u> : Kira Mascho, Devin Perry,
Regrets:	Peter Harrington, John Staulo, Robert Staulo, Sharon O. Stout; <u>Students</u> : Greg Kelley, Katie Sanders, Theresa Staulo
Staff:	Beverly Droz, Director, Human and Volunteer Services
Guests:	Ellen Manning, NCSC Teen Reach Program

The meeting was opened at 7:05pm.

Introductions were made and Ellen Manning, a long time youth worker from NCSC, was warmly welcomed. It was noted that Chris Fortunato has left NCSC and will be duly missed.

A motion to accept the minutes of February 6, 2008 was passed.

Treasurer's report: It was noted that there was no change to the Treasurer's report; Bev is still waiting to receive the custodian's bill from October 2007.

Programs:

Internet Safety:

Marianne reported that Riverside can offer a bullying prevention forum but it would be geared to internet use. They need more specifics whether it should be geared to parents or students. It is easier to coordinate it if it were for parents of middle school students. Ellen Manning is happy to share what NCSC has. Marianne suggested having a high school student(s) there to participate in the program. Joe said as it progresses we'll also talk to Officer Spirito.

FCD:

For the annual Freedom from Chemical Dependency forums that the Youth Commission sponsors in the early spring, we are scheduled for May 16 via Jeanne White at NNHS. Donna is working to see when it will be lined up at NSHS.

Youth Foundation Sub-Committee:

Joe reported that the sub-committee will meet after this meeting.

Other Business:

Fundraising:

Donna said there are now more limits on selling items at NSHS.

Matt suggested we have a committee to organize locations where we could go and sell items. He suggested Sports League games, but Stephanie was concerned that there is limited attendance. She suggested Linda Plaut's events (Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs).

There was further discussion about other options and locations. Joann asked what the funds would be used for. It would go to the Youth's revolving account to support additional youth programs.

Stephan suggested a ping pong or chess tournament which could raise money and also provide winners with a trophy. Years ago, there were such events at NCSC. Kira suggested miniature golf.

Tony suggested taking all the teen info from the Newton Resource Guide and making our own Teen Resource Guide. We could make a proposal to the Newton Rotary for grant money to print it. Kirsten suggested that it be produced as an assignment book so that students would use it.

On behalf of Theresa, Bev reported that Theresa had spoken with a NNHS faculty member about future event dates but the biggest ones are in the fall so it's something to think about for fall planning.

Joe appreciated the great ideas, but reminded everyone that we need people to work on a committee to put some organization behind these ideas in order for them to happen.

SCORE!

Bev had forwarded an email to everyone from SCORE! Education Centers in Newton Center. They work with children ages 4-14 and have an upcoming Spelling Bee in which Youth Commission members may wish to be involved. She noted it was a for-profit organization. Terry said he would follow-up with them to learn more. He suggested that maybe it would be more effective to get some businesses on board supporting the Youth Commission, rather than trying to attend a lot of event selling small priced items.

Youth Interagency

Bev noted the Youth Interagency Task Force would have its quarterly meeting on March 12 at 10am here at City Hall and Commission members are welcome to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 2 at 7:00pm in the City Hall cafeteria.